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April 13, 2017

*Via Electronic Filing*  
Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

*EX PARTE LETTER*

RE: ***WC Docket No. 05-25, RM-10593***

Dear Secretary Dortch:

On April 12, 2017, Richard Nohe, BT General Counsel, Americas Region, and Jennifer Taylor Hodges, VP, US Government Affairs, met with Jay Schwarz, Chairman Pai's Acting Wireline Advisor. In the meeting, we discussed the public version of the March 30, 2017 draft report and order on business data services which is scheduled for a vote at the Open Meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

BT expressed our view that the conclusions reached in the draft order are not supported by the evidence in the record, are arbitrary, and require additional analysis and time to comment. BT also noted concern with the competitive market test. We discussed the lack of competition that we've experienced in the business data services market, particularly in the lower bandwidths. If the FCC moves ahead, we urged the need for a transition period of at least three years to allow businesses, our customers, and consumers to adjust to the changes in the market. If you have any questions regarding any matters discussed herein please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jennifer Taylor Hodges*

Jennifer Taylor Hodges  
Vice President, US Government Affairs, BT

cc: Jay Schwarz